

made by *Phanæus sulcatus* Dru. They occurred at a depth of about 1 foot or deeper and were considerably smaller than those exhibited by Mr. Schwarz.

Mr. Busck said that in Santo Domingo he had found such balls about 1½ inches in diameter.

The following papers were accepted for publication:

TWO NEW SPECIES OF ALEOCHARINÆ FROM CALIFORNIA.

[Coleoptera, Staphylinidæ.]

BY A. FENYES, *Pasadena, Cal.*

GNATHUSA, gen. nov.

Related to *Ocyusa* Kr., but with entirely different labrum, mandibles, and ligula: possibly related also to *Tricolpochila* Brnh. Winged.

Labrum strongly transverse, apparently trilobed and on the middle lobe with 3 equidistant teeth. Mandibles extremely long, thin, curved, acutely pointed, sickle-shaped, both with an oblique, sharp, rather long tooth behind the middle, before the tooth crenulated. Inner lobe of the maxillæ from apex to middle with comb-like teeth, in basal two-thirds with finer spines; outer lobe at apex membranous, with fine hair-like spines. Maxillary palpi rather long, four-jointed, joint 2 shorter than 3; 3 club-shaped; 4 small, aciculate. Mentum transverse, slightly emarginate. Ligula very short, one-half as long as the first joint of the labial palpi, split in two lobes to the base. Labial palpi moderate; joint 1 the longest and the thickest; 2 very short, about one-third as long as 1; 3 about twice as long as 2. Mesosternum between the middle coxæ—seen from below—above the plane of the metasternum, entering about two-thirds between the coxæ, its apex pointed, free, overlapping the metasternal process. Metasternum pointed behind, meeting the lower surface of the mesosternum about half way between the middle coxæ; the latter but little separated. Legs rather short; front tarsi shorter than the tibiæ, joints 1-4 gradually slightly decreasing in length, 5 as long as 3 and 4 together; middle tarsi shorter than the tibiæ, joint 1 longer than 2; 2-4 about equal in length; 5 a little longer than 1 and a little longer than 2 and 3 together; hind tarsi shorter than the tibiæ; joint 1 about as long as 2 and 3 together; 2-4 about equal; 5 about as long as 1.

It was with some hesitation that I prepared the above generic description, as I thought that such a conspicuous, rather

common species might have been discovered and made known long ago; but I have failed to find any genus in the literature at my disposal which would even approach this most remarkable member of the Aleocharinæ subfamily. It is barely possible that the genus has been placed by a previous author in some other staphylinid subfamily: if so, it certainly ought to be transferred to the Aleocharinæ, as the position of the antennæ and the form of the anterior and posterior coxæ do not admit of any other interpretation.

The size and form of the mandibles and the extraordinary, toothed labium (provided I interpreted correctly my dissected specimen) are, to my knowledge, unique in the subfamily.

***Gnathusa eva*, spec. nov.**

Robust, stout, subparallel, moderately shining, with somewhat coarse, sparse pubescence. Head black; prothorax scarcely a little paler. Elytra piceous black, sometimes almost black. Abdomen black. Antennæ entirely reddish brown. Femora piceous; tibiæ and tarsi reddish brown. Antennæ rather short, scarcely as long as head and prothorax together, strongly incrassate toward apex; joint 1 moderately elongate; 2 much longer than 3; 4 square; 5 and 6 about equal; 7-10 gradually strongly wider, 10 more than twice as wide as long; 11 oval, blunt, scarcely as long as 9 and 10 together. Head large, but little narrower than the prothorax; extremely finely, sparsely punctate; eyes about as long as the tempora; genæ entirely margined. Prothorax a little narrower than the elytra, strongly transverse, a little more narrowed in front than behind, with a faint longitudinal basal channel and a basal foveola; finely, sparsely punctate, with 3 to 4 black marginal bristles; epipleuræ not visible from the side. Elytra a little longer than the prothorax, outer hind angles feebly emarginate; roughly granulosely punctate, a little more densely than the prothorax. Abdomen broad, wider at about the middle; segments 3-5 transversely impressed at base, before the impressions with a bisinuate bead; segment 7 scarcely longer than 6; finely, very sparsely punctate toward tip, with marginal bristles.

Length 2.6 mm.

Tahoe City, California; taken in abundance by sifting, also in evening flight.

***Bolitochara unicolor*, spec. nov.**

Elongate, moderately narrowed in front and behind, moderately convex; somewhat shining, with long, fine, sparse, decumbent pubescence; winged. Entirely dark to pale reddish yellow, joints 1-3 and 11 of the antennæ scarcely paler. Antennæ a little longer than head

and prothorax together, strongly incrassate toward apex; joints 2 and 3 subequal; 4 longer than wide; 5 about square; 6-10 gradually thicker, 10 almost twice as wide as long; 11 a little longer than 9 and 10 together, oval, pointed at tip. Head narrower than the prothorax, almost longer than wide, sides subparallel; moderately densely, a little coarsely punctate; eyes small; tempora almost twice as long as the eyes; genæ entirely margined. Prothorax narrower than the elytra, but little wider than long, widest before the middle; sides toward apex rounded, toward base slightly sinuate; base a little wider than apex; hind angles almost rectangular; with a transverse basal impression and two very faint, parallel, longitudinal channels in the basal half; moderately densely, a little coarsely, asperulately punctate. Elytra scarcely one-fourth longer and a little wider than the prothorax, together wider than long, outer hind angles moderately emarginate; rather sparsely, very coarsely, granulately punctate. Abdomen broad, widest in the middle, narrowed in front and behind; in the middle as wide as the elytra; segments 3-5 strongly transversely impressed at base; rather sparsely, very coarsely punctate, behind a little more sparsely and more finely so. There are no sexual characters on the elytra nor on the abdomen.

Length 3 mm.

Type—No. 10592, my collection.

Fifty specimens from Tahoe City and Tallac, California, sifted under decaying vegetable matter; taken also in evening flight. I have also specimens in my collection taken in the San Bernardino Mountains at Sugar Pine, Summerdale, and Mohawk, all in California.

The mouthparts are those of other species of the genus *Bolitochara*. The species is unique in our fauna on account of its uniform color and the lack of sexual characters of the male.

I found my specimens under deep layers of decaying leaves in the coniferous forests around Lake Tahoe. They were feeding probably on minute fungi. Although winged, they show an unmistakable tendency toward becoming apterous in the course of time. The rather abbreviated elytra, the dilated abdomen, and the pale uniform color may be mentioned as proof of this tendency.